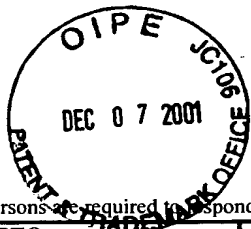


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [ + ]



PTO/SB08A (08-00)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2009 OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	09/929599
Confirmation Number	9182
Filing Date	August 14, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael Gomer Stelljes, Jr., et al.
Group Art Unit	1731 (5)
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	8674

SHEET 1 of 1

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
MH		4,556,450		Chuang, et al.	12-03-1985	
		5,274,930		Ensign, et al.	01-04-1994	
		5,581,906		Ensign, et al.	12-10-1996	
		5,584,126		Ensign, et al.	12-17-1996	
		5,598,643		Chuang, et al.	02-04-1997	
		5,699,626		Chuang, et al.	12-23-1997	
		5,701,682		Chuang, et al.	12-30-1997	
		5,938,893		Trokhan, et al.	08-17-1999	
		5,942,322		Ensign, et al.	08-24-1999	
		6,021,583		Stelljes, Jr., et al.	02-08-2000	
		6,105,276		Ensign, et al.	08-22-2000	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
MH		WO	99/53136	Ashworth, et al.	10-21-1999		

### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>6</sup>

EXAMINER <u>M. Halpern</u>	DATE CONSIDERED <u>10/10/02</u>
----------------------------	---------------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.